

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-7 are pending in this application, of which claims 1 and 7 have been amended. No new claims have been added.

Claims 1 and 3-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter not adequately described in the specification. Specifically, the Examiner has asserted the following:

In claim 1, the phrase, 'present on a surface of the support' is not supported by the specification. In claim 7, the phrase, 'wherein the cationic resin is present on surfaces of both sides of the support' is not supported by the specification.

In this regard, it should be noted that pg. 15, lines 8-16 disclose that a cationic resin is adhered to support 1. Pg. 18, lines 22 to pg. 19, line 9 discloses that a cationic resin is adhered to both sides of a synthetic paper as a support.

Applicants respectfully submit that this language would suggest to one of ordinary skill in the art that such an "adherence" of the cationic resin would have to be to a surface of the support. Accordingly, claim 1 has been amended to recite that the cationic resin is "adhered" to the support and claim 7 has been amended to recite that the cationic resin is "adhered" to both sides of the support.

Thus, the 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, rejection should be withdrawn.

The Examiner has maintained from the previous Office Action the following prior art rejections:

1. The 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of claims 1 and 5-7 as anticipated by Fujioka et al.;
2. The 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 3 and 4 as unpatentable over Fujioka et al. in view of Shepherd; and
3. The 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of claim 1 as anticipated by Asano et al.

Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

As noted in Applicants' response of June 26, 2006, the final product disclosed in Fujioka et al., which is to be compared with the present invention, is constituted of a paper substrate, an electroconductive layer and a record forming layer formed on the electroconductive layer. In Fujioka et al., a cationic resin is contained only in the electroconductive layer, and the record forming layer is mainly composed of an insulative resin. A cationic resin is not present on the surface of the recording layer.

Thus, even though claims 1 and 7 have been amended to claim that the cationic resin is adhered to the support (claim 1) or to both sides of the support (claim 7), Applicants respectfully submit that one of ordinary skill in the art would interpret such "adherence" to necessarily be at a surface of the support, as noted above.

Thus, the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejections should be withdrawn.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims 1 and 3-7, as amended, are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

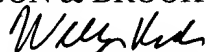
U.S. Patent Application Serial No. **09/508,617**
Response to Office Action dated September 8, 2006

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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